

Today I live in constant fear of the power the press exercises over the minds and opinions of the American people and indeed the whole world. I've been very outspoken in recent years to my friends, family, and co-workers about the narrow scope and controlled innuendo of our media now days. The effects of the use of propaganda can be seen throughout our society. Americans prefer to win, and in recent elections I have both been a subject of surveys, and seen the use of controlled surveys to influence the mindset of the American people, and I believe the out come of elections.

In the last Presidential election I was appalled when it was found that one of President Bush's relatives occupied a position of power in a media job. It was bad enough that the decision that swayed the electoral college came down to the votes within the state his brother was governor. But the possibility that the media itself may have significantly influenced the out come of the election places a dark shadow over the future of all American Freedom. The light of the world grew significantly darker.

I first became aware of the limitations and tunnel vision of the "free" press, when I was a member of Compuserve in the early nineties. I had then, direct access to the dissimulation of information from the Associated Press. I became alarmed then because everything I read online from the AP was being rewritten to avoid direct plagiarisim and copyright infringement, but all that appeared in my local newspaper were the same articles from the Associated Press. This is not safe or good. We were extolled by our local newspapers and television to believe we had local people reporting on location, the events of the world. While in fact we are being spoon fed the soup without any chunks of reality.

I thought I was the one of the only people concerned about how limited our news programs have become. This hearing has given me some hope that there are others alarmed by the current situation. The few sources of information we have anymore are all the same and limited to the point terrorising me with the spector of similarities to communism and nazism.

And now we are being driven into a war more by the power of suggestion organized by some unseen editors than by the beliefs of the people as a whole. When we went into Bosnia, we sought to separate the warring factions and bring peace to the area that had at one time sparked World War One. And the media pounded the President for dragging us into the conflict. And our efforts there proved fruitful and just. But now we are being propelled into a conflict in which we are the aggressor for the first time since the Spanish American War. We are being led by that same "media" to believe that we are limiting the destructive power of an "Axis of Evil". Whereas nothing is being said about the "what if" the United Nations decided we should be stripped of our weapons of mass destruction. Due to our own overstepping our authority and invasion of Iraq. We must put ourselves in the shoes of those we judge before we can even attempt to understand the whole situation. And our news media has become so one sided that I fear the light we shine upon the world has dimmed significantly since the display of all sides has become "inefficient". Please vote against the massing of the media. Bring back the voice of the people of America, speaking out from every corner, hill and valley.